

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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44

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W

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O 191511Z MAY 75 ZFF 4

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0194

AMEMBASSY VIENNA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 08053

EXDIS

FOR THE SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (SECRETARY KISSINGER)

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S VISIT TO BONN: MEETING WITH  
OPPOSITION LEADERS

REFS: (A) BONN 7607, (B) STATE 115881

1. KOHL AND CARSTENS APPRECIATE AND ACCEPT SECRETARY'S  
OFFER TO MEET WITH THEM AT 10:30 P.M. ON MAY 20 AT  
GYMNICH AFTER DINNER CONCLUDES.

2. CARSTENS' OFFICE INFORMS US THAT CARSTENS WISHES TO  
BRING BUNDESTAG MEMBER RICHARD STUECKLEN WITH HIM TO THE  
MEETING ALTHOUGH HE HAS NOT YET SUCCEEDED IN REACHING  
STUECKLEN AND IT IS THEREFORE UNCERTAIN WHETHER  
STUECKLEN WILL BE FREE TO COME. FOR BACKGROUND INFORMA-  
TION: STUECKLEN, A CSU MEMBER, IS FIRST DEPUTY LEADER  
OF THE CDU/CSU PARLIAMENTARY GROUP AND LEADER OF THE  
CSU SUB-FRAKTION. CARSTENS TRIES TO INCLUDE STUECKLEN  
IN MEETINGS WHERE SUBJECTS OF IMPORTANCE TO THE OVERALL  
PARLIAMENTARY GROUP ARE DISCUSSED. FOLLOWING THE CDU'S  
RECENT NOMINATION OF KOHL AS ITS CHANCELLOR CANDIDATE,  
RELATIONS BETWEEN THE CDU AND THE CSU ARE GOING THROUGH  
A DELICATE PHASE PENDING THE FINAL DECISION ON A  
CANDIDATE TO REPRESENT THE CDU/CSU AS A WHOLE IN NEXT  
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YEAR'S NATIONAL ELECTIONS. THERE IS LITTLE DOUBT THAT

THE DECISION WILL ULTIMATELY FALL OUT IN FAVOR OF KOHL,  
BUT THE CDU EXPECTS SOME HARD BARGAINING IN THE MEAN-  
TIME. THIS HELPS EXPLAIN WHY CDU REPS SUCH AS CARSTENS  
ARE AT PAINS TO TAKE CSU SENSITIVITIES INTO ACCOUNT.

3. BRIEF BIO SKETCHES ON KOHL, CARSTENS AND STUECKLEN  
BEING SENT SEPTEL.  
HILLENBRAND

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